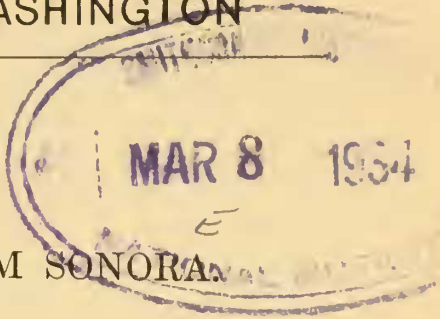


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A NEW KANGAROO RAT FROM SONORA

BY E. A. GOLDMAN.

The range of Merriam's kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys merriami*) embraces the varied territory extending from northern Nevada south to such distant points as Cape San Lucas, Lower California, and over the tableland of Mexico east of the Sierra Madre to southern Coahuila. The species is subdivisible into about a dozen subspecies or geographic races each distinguished by a peculiar combination of color and cranial characters. An arm of the range of the species extends southward on the Mexican mainland, west of the Sierra Madre, approaching the Tropical Zone in southern Sonora. Specimens from the more southern localities in this region are referred to a new subspecies described as follows:

Dipodomys merriami mayensis,¹ subsp. nov.

ALAMOS KANGAROO RAT.

Type from Alamos, Sonora, Mexico. No. 96437, ♂ adult, U. S. National Museum (Biological Survey Collection), collected by E. A. Goldman, December 19, 1898. Original number 13302.

General characters.—A rather dark-colored form, most closely allied to *Dipodomys merriami merriami*, but upper parts darker, tail blacker; skull differing most prominently in greater expansion of maxillary arches. Hind foot with four toes as usual in the species.

Color.—*Type* (fresh pelage): Upper parts in general near cinnamon-buff of Ridgway, moderately mixed with black, the dark hairs giving a finely lined appearance, especially on top of head and over back; under parts, fore limbs, hind feet above, supraorbital and postauricular spots, usual hip stripes and tail at extreme base all around pure white; tail beyond extreme base slaty blackish along upper and lower median stripes to near tip where the lengthening hairs are blackish all around, the sides

¹Named for the Mayo Indians, who inhabit the region of the type locality.

white passing gradually into dusky subterminally, the lighter under color persisting to extreme tip; outer sides of ankles and soles of hind feet distinctly blackish; dark facial markings rather broad and conspicuous.

Skull.—Similar to that *D. m. merriami*, but maxillary arches broader, the lateral angles more everted and hook-like; rostrum slightly heavier, the nasals slightly broader anteriorly than usual in *merriami*; mastoid and audital bullae about the same. Resembling that of *D. m. melanurus* in development of maxillary arches, but mastoid and audital bullae decidedly smaller.

Measurements.—*Type*: Total length, 240 mm; tail vertebrae, 138; hind foot, 37. *Skull (type)*: Greatest length (on median line), 34.3; greatest breadth (between outer sides of audital bullae), 23; breadth across maxillary arches, 20.5; least width of supraoccipital (near interparietal), 1.6; maxillary toothrow, 3.8.

Remarks.—While this kangaroo rat is closely allied to the widely ranging typical subspecies it is easily distinguished by the rather well-marked combination of color and cranial characters pointed out. It somewhat resembles *D. m. melanurus* of southern Lower California, but is darker and cranial distinctions have been mentioned.

Specimens examined.—Total number, 20; from localities in Sonora as follows: Alamos (type locality), 4; Camoa, 16.